

Knox June 1834

My dear Mother

We have just had the pleasure of hearing of you this morning in a letter from Charles and as he says that you would like to hear about me and the children I have say - I Joseph to allow me to tell you a little about the children myself in the first place they are all remarkably well, my eldest girl Claudine will be five years old on the 12th of July and is a very clever nice little thing, the next Walter who will be 4 years old on the 12th of October is a very fine, funny, little boy and a great favourite of his Papa. The next, Mary will be 2 years old the 27th of this month she is very pretty and has fair curled hair - the next and last is Henry who will be a year old on the 21st of this month he is the stoutest of them all walks alone and carries chairs about the house with as much ease as a great London Porter and he has white hair and ^{very} blue eyes with the whitest skin I ever saw the children all have the little angel and he is always laughing, they all like their Papa better than they like me even when I was nursing Walter he would leave off sucking to go to his Papa. I wish you could see us all, indeed I

have some hopes of being in England next
 summer Joseph is sure to be there in the spring
 and if things go on well I shall accompany him
 I need not say the pleasure it would give me
 to pay you a visit with all my little chicks
 are very often talks of it. Joseph has told
 me so much about you that I feel to know
 you ~~very~~ just well, though I have great pleasure
 in writing to you I ought to tell you that Claudia
 is already a great help to me she can dress herself
 & take care of all her things. As we very happy, at
 least I am you I am very fond of parenting and so
 with all Joseph's pursuits with so much pleasure
 as he does himself, I must now leave off as I promise
 only to occupy half a sheet, with my love to Maria
 W. Thomas and Charles I remain My dear W. Thomas
 Yours affectionately
 Pray tell Miss Maria that it will give me ^{great} pleasure
 to hear from her.

My dear Charles - I write in great haste that it may
 be by return of Post, so that you may have no trouble - I
 confess that Lord Winstley Russell presents me, however I
 written him by this post, and say that you will go and find
 him, at the Duke of Bedford's they will tell you where he is